

BARTON COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

VOLUME XVI.

GREAT BEND, KANSAS, FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1899.

NUMBER 7.

THE ROOSTER.

John Conway, of the Norton Champion, Cackles off Some Interesting Cuckthoughts.



MAN will learn much by the study of the rooster. What is our rooster's mission in the economy of the universe?

To wear fine feathers and look gay. Nature teaches this as the predestined function of the male. But perverted humanity reverses matters: who, in the civilized groups of humans, wears fine feathers and looks gay? An examination of an Easter bonnet solves the mystery—woman.

Indians have better sense than their pale brothers. Indians, not squaws, wear feathers. Both rooster and Indian are closer to nature, nearer to truth.

In the division of labor the same fact is revealed. In the chicken world what are the constitutional functions of the hen? To lay eggs, to hatch them and scratch a living. The rooster does not condescend to do either. Among the Indians the burdens of this life are upon the back of the squaw. The Indian is a rooster; both would starve rather than do the work of a squaw or hen.

Behold the rooster: a thing of beauty! proud, dignified, imperial, a very Solomon of glorious decorations! In his crest is the purple blood of dominion and sway. His arched tail is a rainbow of colors; his neck, a reproduction of crimson sunsets, amethysts jeweled in plumage, and every feather sprinkled with the dust of pulverized opals, pearls, diamonds, emeralds, topaz, corneolians, sapphires and other precious stones too numerous to mention.

The rooster is your dignified individual. No one would mistake the fact that he is the mogul of the flock.

Suppose another rooster invades his harem; what is the consequence? A battle royal, a war of extermination, a survival of the fittest. Not so adroit as King David, when the rooster sees a fair Bathsheba bathing in a garden of dust, he does not send her Uriah forth to battle in the van but dispatches him with his own lanced spur. As a result, a brood of Solomons for wisdom, making an imprudent rather the mother of prudent progenies.

Roosters are jealous. So is nature. Neither will brook trifling with their laws; both wound and kill the innovation. Man with all his brains has rarely sense enough to be jealous; or, when jealous, "suspects" as Byron says, "in the wrong place."

The rooster is eloquent on state occasions; his periodical crows are timely messages of the stability and prudence of his government.

We have not yet been able to settle on an alphabet of hen talk, but chickens have a language. We saw a hen on discovering a grub call to its attack a whole brood of wandering chicks that hastened to the scene intelligently; they recognized the call.

East evening two rival hens seemed toicker over the pride of place, next the rooster. They quarreled, henpecked each other and made a hairpulling scene. The rooster rises above both, seemed to deliver a moral lecture full of sage advice and peaceful philosophy which the two hens somewhat disregarded; they kept "sassing" back and forth. What does our authoritative gentleman do but peck at the covering hen farthest from him using language we shall put in English as follows: "Dang you! behave yourself; let her roost next to me this time, and watch your chance to get next tomorrow night."

Why the male member of our domestic fowl is called a rooster has never been explained. Hens are roosters; so are mugwumps or any other animals that roost upon a perch or perch upon a fence.

The rooster is a polygamous Mormon and would not exchange his domestic relations for a perch in congress. Nature taught him this religion, so we are led to believe, because a translation of the Old Testament in his language has not been open to his inspection. He could not have read the story of Abraham, Jacob, David and Solomon's connubial alliances.

The gizzard has been cited the industrious ant as a model true to instinct and nature. So, too, can the monogamous male or bachelor of the genus Homo be directed to the conduct of the rooster as a model of nature and art. The rooster can harmonize a

barem of hens while the brainer man can scarcely keep house with one mate unchecked.

This teaches us that the higher that beings ascend the ladder of wisdom the less they have to do with females. Indeed, Jesus intimates that in heaven the folly of housekeeping is entirely dispensed with.

By the same source, holy writ, we are informed that in wisdom is grief. And the world's observation crystalized in an adage is, "Ignorance is bliss."

Persian religions inculcate the doctrine that goodness in this world is rewarded by wives in paradise: If good three wives; if better more wives; and if the best, then a covey of fifty wives which is the greatest happiness reserved for the faithful.

The inference is, be an angel if you desire wisdom and grief; be a Mussulman if you desire mere happiness; but be a rooster if you long for exaggerated bliss.

Darwin in his "Natural Selections" contends that the gaudy plumage of the male bird is a painting by nature to attract the eye of the whimsical female.

Such a doctrine is a contradiction to his theory of the survival of the fittest in that the latter makes might, not beauty, triumphant. But nature may have put bright feathers on a weakling in an effort to spare him from annihilation.

Upon which theory can you account for the present homeliness of the human race?

A pretty form and face is a rarity. Moreover, the race is growing weaker from age to age. We are advanced in wisdom, but retrograded in physical beauty.

By and by we shall be so developed in wisdom as not to be able to propagate our species at all, making a sort of caponizing heaven of this prolific earth.

We are developing too rapidly upward towards the ethical bestitudes. Before the race became extinct from wisdom, deformity and sterility we would better go closer to nature and study its method for the conservation of energies.

Study the rooster.

The only remnant of his traits left with super-trained humanity seems to be his least meritorious habit of crowing over indifferent successes.

THE democrats of Kansas, and of the nation for that matter, have been, year after year calling the attention of the people to the republican methods by which trusts and combinations of large wealth are being fostered and built up through tariff legislation, the republican manner of construing laws on money matters, and that partys truckling in every campaign to that class most interested in trusts and monopolies. Yet the republicans would not be convinced because, forsooth, those great capitalists were "with 'em" and furnished sinews of war—the money with which they have forced themselves into power.

At last, however, the "trust epidemic" has become so monstrous that the republicans feel that the people will revolt, and they begin to hedge. The Topeka Mail and Breeze of last week gives a couple of columns of in'erviews with Topeka business men under the following introductory: "The Mail and Breeze has obtained this week the opinion of many of the leading business men of Topeka on the trust question. They are almost unanimously of the opinion that the formation of trusts and great industrial combines is a menace to the country."

Just think of the democrats banqueting all over the country at ten dollar dinners, and at the same time drafting resolutions favoring the enactment of laws for the uplifting of downtrodden mankind! Consistency, eh?—Clafin Clarion.

CONSISTENCY, did you say? As the editor of the Clarion knows there has been but one "ten dollar dinner" given under the head of democracy, and that by the New York gold-bug democrats whom the real democracy of the country have repudiated because of their—the New Yorkers—having sold out body and soul to the republicans, it would seem that the Clarion man should read up on "consistency" a little himself. He should also know that such thin, untruthful and misleading hog-wash as the editorial squib quoted above will not convert any man to the Clarion's favorite gold-standard, trust-making party.

A DOUBLE TRAGEDY.

Frank Smith, Raised in Great Bend, Kills His Wife and Then Himself, in Pueblo, Colo.

From the Pueblo Chieftain of April 21st, we take the following account of a terrible tragedy at Pueblo:

"If she will not live with me, I cannot live, and we must die together," said Frank Smith to his brother a day or two ago when referring to his wife who had brought suit for divorce from him charging cruelty. She refused to return to him, and how well he kept his threat was shown to the eyes of the horrified neighbors who rushed into the little home on Spring street near Clast night, and found the wife lying dead huddled in a heap in the doorway connecting the bedroom of the couple with the spare room; the husband gasping his last on the bed, still holding a revolver in his right hand.

Residents in that vicinity were startled last night about 9 o'clock by the report of three pistol shots coming from the Smith house. The reports were followed by the rush of a man from the place, who made wild efforts to unhitch a horse which was standing in front of the place. At about this time Officer Bell appeared on the scene and entered the house.

There a gasty sight met his gaze. On the floor between the two rooms at the rear of the house were lying the remains of Mrs. Smith; on a bed in the adjoining sleeping room was the husband gasping in the last throes of death. In his hand was a 38-caliber revolver with which he had evidently shot his wife and then turned the weapon upon himself, and the officer's attempts to disengage the weapon from his hand were successful and in a few moments the murderer and suicide breathed his last.

The woman was shot in the left temple and also in the neck. The bullet which entered the neck was evidently the second shot and in an attempt to ward off the deadly missile she had thrown up her left arm, as there was a bullet hole through her wrist. The bullet with which Smith ended his own life entered the left temple and came out through the back of his head and was found in the bed.

The man who had been seen to run from the building when the first shot was fired was Terry Smith, a brother of Smith, who occupied the front room as a sleeping apartment. He had been startled from a sound sleep by the first shot and before being thoroughly awakened the other two shots were fired and he saw the body of the woman drop at the entrance of the house. He did not stop to investigate but ran out of the front door intending to give the alarm. It was at this time that the officer appeared upon the scene.

Two weeks ago today the couple had quite a dispute in which Smith is said to have given his wife a black eye. She went to Mrs. J. S. Sperry regarding the matter and stated that she wished to get a divorce and the papers for a divorce suit were filed in the district court. Mrs. Sperry was seen last night and she stated that the murdered woman had undoubtedly been mistreated for when she came to her her eyes were blacked and she gave every evidence of having received a beating. Mrs. Sperry advised Mrs. Smith to get a divorce if she could not live with her husband and the action was filed.

When the first quarrel between the couple took place, Mrs. Smith endeavored to secure a position and a few days ago was engaged as dining room girl at the C. F. & I. hospital where she has been employed.

A young lady neighbor of the Smiths who is also employed in the diningroom at the hospital and was with Mrs. Smith when she went home before the shooting said: "As we were coming out of the hospital tonight about 8 o'clock, Mr. Smith was standing on the other side of the street near his buggy. We started down towards the grove when he said: 'Don't you ladies want a ride?' I asked Mrs. Smith if she was not afraid to go with him, she answered 'Of course not,' and we got in the buggy together and rode home. When we arrived there Mr. and Mrs. Smith went into their house and I went into my father's home next door. About half an hour later mother called my attention to a noise which I said was the folks next door breaking kindling wood. A few moments after that the reports of two pistol shots were heard. We then knew that something awful had happened."

It appeared that Smith had been drinking for several weeks. He was in the employ of Nayton & Simpson, but for the last three days his brother had done his work.

The couple were married in Pueblo March 31st, 1890, and have one child, a

daughter seven years of age. When the divorce suit was filed the little girl was placed in the custody of Mr. and Mrs. John Carlson of 107 Plum street, where she now is.

The father of the dead man is Captain Smith whose home is in Bellevue, Ohio. The relatives of Mrs. Smith are not known. Her maiden name was Cora Wilson.

Ellinwood Mill Burned.

About 10 p. m. Thursday the 20th, fire broke out in the large flouring mill at Ellinwood, and all efforts of the citizens to subdue the flames proved fruitless, the mill and all its contents was burned to the ground. We have been unable to learn even a conjecture as to how the fire started. The loss of the structure and its contents is estimated at upwards of \$12,000. \$4,000 of insurance was carried. The mill was built and operated for many years by Chas. Grant, now with the Larned mills. At the time of the fire it is said to have been owned by Chas. A. Willms, who has been operating it for several years.

This fire will doubtless be another object lesson to the citizens of Ellinwood as to the necessity of some adequate fire protection.

From the amount of dense smoke that swept through the streets almost stifling everything with breath, Friday afternoon last, most people thought a disastrous fire was in progress. The fire alarm was sounded and the department turned out, to find that another lot of manure and rubbish in the north edge of town had been set on fire and the high wind was in a fair way to sweep the fire through the town. If this rubbish must be dumped so near town, there ought to be some penalty against setting it on fire in a high wind.

The Kansas State S. S. convention meets at Hutchinson May 9th to 11th. One fare for the round trip to all. Hotels and boarding houses give special rates to Sunday school workers. Barton county should be fully represented by 40 earnest workers. Go, and get acquainted with the state workers—About 500 Sunday school workers besides thousands of visitors are expected to be present at the convention.

THE COUNTY SECY.

The 10th Session of the Trans-Mississippi Commercial Congress will be held at Wichita, Kan. May 31st to June 3rd. This Congress has influenced the National Congress to a greater degree than all other bodies in the United States together, among which may be noted the annexation of Hawaii, deep water on the Gulf, reduced railway transportation, the Nicaragua Canal and a general awakening of the agricultural and commercial interests of the west.

A special from Guthrie, Ok., of April 22d, states that: "Tom Doran, late county clerk of Woodward county, has been appointed live stock agent for Oklahoma territory of the St. Louis and San Francisco railroad." Tom is well known by old Barton county residents, and they will be glad to know of his rounding up so good a position.

Grounds for bicycle track and base ball diamond were laid out last week, just south of the college, and on the college grounds. The speed ring will be 3/4 mile, with 440 feet stretches and 440 feet turns. A meeting was held at Hotel Greene last night (Thursday) to complete arrangements for putting the grounds in proper shape.

At the meeting of the Head Camp, Modern Woodmen, to be held at Kansas City during the week beginning June 6th, prizes to the amount of \$925 will be given to consisting Forester teams—from \$500 for best to \$50 for the 5th best team. The Great Bend Foresters ought to go after some of those prizes.

The Deighton Herald suggests that, when you get ready to plant a tree, dig the hole good and deep, then kill a dog and throw the carcass in the hole and plant your tree over it. Say that's an alfred good idea. We hope several hundred trees will be planted that way in Great Bend during the next week.

Judge Ogle has a new way to get rid of slumber-disturbers. He takes his bed out on the public square, where there is an abundance of free azime—and sets fire to it, and while the little stinkers burn, he dances an Indian war dance around the crematory.

I shall move, on April 1st, into the Langham Shoe Store, and will be pleased to see all my old customers, as well as new ones, there.

DIFFENBACHER. THE TAILOR.

LOCAL BRIEFS.

A delightful April shower Monday night.

If you have flannels to shed, prepare to shed them now.

Alfalfa seed for sale, by the Great Bend Implement Co.

Joseph X. Smith closed his School, up west, last week.

Facts, Not Fakes, is what we advertise. "CYCLONE."

Try the New Coal Yard.

WINTERBURG & NEWCOMBE.

Work will begin immediately on the enlargement of the Koen ditch to its full capacity.

Your Spring Dress has just arrived, come in and see how you like it. "CYCLONE."

Newt Tindall left Monday for Jetmore, where he goes to work for the Santa Fe again.

We believe that LaFayette park will this summer be fully deserving of the name "park."

Regular monthly meeting of the city council and city school board next Monday night.

No waste of waists, this year. Our stock is going rapidly; better hurry and get one. "CYCLONE."

I am ready to give music lessons on string or brass instrument. See me at Feldkamp & Baier bakery.

FOR SALE, for cash or on time, two work horses, 8 and 9 years old.

G. STROBEL, Great Bend.

The Moses Bros. elevator will be ready for the 99 wheat crop by the time the wheat crop is ready for it.

We handle the best garden seeds we can buy. If you want a garden see us. GREAT BEND IMPLEMENT CO.

Some of the boys are talking about organizing a brass band. We ought to have one—that would stay organized.

We Received Sa-Moa, ties this week and we're doing some more selling of 50c ones for 25c in consequence. "CYCLONE"

The alfalfa fields, although late in starting, have been making a splendid growth this spring. There should be more alfalfa raised in this county.

Granville Ervin is arranging for another cake walk, to be a warm number, at the colored Masonic hall, on Thursday evening, May 4th.

Jack Morrison and family arrived Monday from Raton, N. M., where they have been for the past year or more. They may locate in Great Bend again.

Hiram Curry returned this week from a four weeks visit back in Indiana. He found things back there, in the vicinity of Indianapolis, in good shape.

The price paid for turkeys is generally better than that for chickens, and there is always a demand for them. Why not raise more turkeys in Barton county?

Nit. You can't palm off jack rabbit scalps on the deputy county clerk for coyote scalps. She was raised in the country and often had 'em—rabbits, not coyotes—for breakfast.

The frisky prairie fire now cavorts across the plain, and the man who neglected to plow fire guards about his stacks and buildings on the prairie is in daily danger of losing them.

The Santa Fe road appreciates a good advertising medium, and has therefore taken an entire page of the DEMOCRAT this week to announce the good things people can get for the asking.

Otto Brand, of the north-west part of Eureka township, called last week to renew on his paper, and also to say that he believes there will be less than half a crop of wheat in Barton county this year.

Mary had a millionaire, his head was off as dough, and everywhere that Mary went, why, he was sure to go. He followed her to church one day, and then they had a row (arranged by Mary.) Mary lives on alimony now.

Dr. H. E. Lindas will attend the State Dental Association meeting at Topeka the first week in May. He will be absent from Great Bend from May 1st to 5th. Those who are in need of his services should govern themselves accordingly.

Do not waste your time spading in garden by using poor seeds. See us, and get sure returns.

GREAT BEND IMPLEMENT CO.

Violets as natural as life only 10c a bunch at the "CYCLONE."

Eggs, Rose Comb, Brown Leghorn,
Good as in State—score 90 to 94
\$1.00 for setting of 15.
Write, or call on
T. D. STRADLEY, Great Bend, Ks.

MISS FLORENCE POOLE.
TEACHER OF
Piano and Organ.
Modern methods.
Thorough instruction.
STUDIO AT RESIDENCE, EAST
SIDE OF SQUARE.
Great Bend, Kansas.

B. E. Lindas,
"DENTIST."
Dental rooms over the Cyclone
GREAT BEND, KANS.

BLUE FRONT

LIVERY and FEED STABLE.
ZUTAVERN & BUSH, Props.

J. E. Carroll
PLAIN AND DECORATIVE,
Sign
and ORNAMENTAL
Painting,
Paper Hanging and
Wall Tinting.
Enquire at
Hooper's Drug Store or Hotel Greene,
Great Bend, Kans.

C. L. Jones & Son,

Proprietors
Livery and Feed Stable,
Good Rigs. Quick Service. Traveling
Men given Special Attention.
HOISINGTON, KANS.

RIVERSIDE
Steam Laundry.
satisfactory work guaranteed.
free Delivery to any part of city.
Up-town Agencies
Conveniently Located.
PRITCHARD & SONS.

Removed.
I have removed my Tin Shop
to the F. H. Miller Hardware
and Implement House, west
side of square, where I shall be
glad to see all
My Customers and Friends.
Who require repair work on
Tinware, Gasoline Stoves, etc.
Prices reasonable.
Give Me a Call.
J. W. LUSE.

BEGGS CHERRY
COUGH SYRUP
CURES.
Not a minute need be wasted in curing your cold if you take **BEGGS CHERRY COUGH SYRUP.** It acts the quickest and surest of any known remedy. No matter how bad your cough, you can sleep if you take this remedy.
Sold at
HOOPER DRUG CO